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Fisher Held for Trial in Broski Death

Burlington Man Will Face New Trial After Somers Widow Brands Him as Killer

Leonard Fisher, now serving a term of 14 to 25 years in state prison for connection with the Schenning murder, was bound over to circuit court in Kenosha county Wednesday to face trial on charges of first degree murder for the slaying of Anthony Broski, Somers storekeeper.

Judge R. V. Baker ordered Fisher held for trial after Mrs. Anthony Broski, the widow of the slain man, had branded Fisher as the killer as she confronted him on the witness stand.

"That's the man who killed my husband," she declared, pointing to the defendant, sitting in the courtroom beside his counsel with deputy sheriffs and Joseph Friedel, a state prison officer, standing guard over him.

Mrs. Broski, ho saw her husband shot and fatally wounded during a hold-up of their store in Somers on the night of June 11, 1934, was the principal state witness at the preliminary hearing for Fisher, held in the municipal court room.

She was subjected to a long cross examination by defense counsel, but remained positive in her identification of Fisher as the killer..

Fisher was returned to Kenosha late Tuesday by Deputy Sheriff Leo Schend and the prison guard. After Warden Oscar Lee of the state prison had honored District Attorney John P. McEvoy's request for his custody for the hearing. He was kept under heavy guard and was returned to the state prison that afternoon.

Mrs. Broski, comely and well dressed, told her story of the hold-up and killing calmly, but her voice trembled on several occasions as she recounted her experiences on the fateful night.

She and her husband were alone in the store at about 9:25 o'clock, she testified, when the gunman entered the front door. Her suspicions were immediately aroused, she said, by the manner of his entrance. He came in guickly as though in a hurry.

Mrs. Broski described in detail the manner of his dress, testifying he appeared immaculate. She met him about half way between the door and the rear counter and asked him what he wanted.

He called for a package of cigarettes and paid for them. After she had put the change in the cash register, she turned around she said, and the man had a small automatic pistol in his hand.

"Get back there, get back and lie down on the floor," she said the man shouted at her. Turning the gun on Broski, she said the gunman repeated his order to him, waving him to come forward. Broski started toward the place indicated by the bandit, she said.

When he had taken a couple of steps, the bandit fired a shot into the floor within a foot of where she was standing. Broski shouted, "Oh, my God" and stopped, she testified, apparently believing his wife

had been shot.

Fisher turned upon him and fires, the bullet piercing the abdomen, she said.

"I looked at my husband and saw that he had been wounded," she declared. "I turned back to the gunman and said 'You dirty rat,' and started toward him. He turned and ran out the door. I followed him. He reached it and the door shut just as I reached it and the door caught my wrist, tearing off the wrist watch and bruising my hand. I opened the door and saw the gunman racing toward a car parked on the north side of the street.

For a second, she said, as she opened the door, the gunman confronted her and she thought he was going to shoot her. For some reason he didn't fire, but turned back toward the car. The automobile, in which another man was sitting, sped westward.

Mrs. Broski said she tried to get the license number, but couldn't get the numbers straight.

She started toward a neighbor's house, where there is a Kenosha telephone, to call officers. Her husband insisted on going along. Just as they got inside, her husband collapsed. He was rushed to St. Catherine's hospital where he died several days later.

She said she had never seen the killer before, and went into details on his appearance. The next time she saw him, she declared, was at the Racine county jail. She was called there by Kenosha officers and waited in the sheriff's office. When she went into the outer room eight men were lined up against the wall.

When asked by McEvoy, "Did you see anyone you knew," she replied, "Yes, the man who killed my husband."

"Who is he?" McEvoy asked.

"Leonard Fisher," she said.

"Do you see him here now?"

"Yes," she answered pointing to the defendant.

She was called back to Racine the next day, she said, at her own request to see the accused man dressed as she said he was the night of the killing. She then identified the dark blue suit Fisher had on as the one the killer wore.

During cross examination, defense counsel dwelt at length upon Mrs. Broski's description of the killer, questions indicated they might be trying to throw blame upon Reinhold Fleuker who was slain the night Fisher was captured.